REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 13, 2009 has been carefully considered. Claims 49-58 are pending. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 49-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Martinek et al. (US 2003/0130032 A1), referred to as Martinek, in view of Arnold (EPO 0661675 A2).

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Martinek and Arnold does not teach a gaming system as recited in claim 49. The combination of Martinek and Arnold does not describe or suggest an encryption of gaming data that is performed with an encryption key of a second gaming organization having a second gaming organization computer connected via a network with a first gaming organization computer of a first gaming organization. The Examiner admits that Martinek does not disclose encryption of gaming data with an encryption key of a first gaming organization and encryption of gaming data with an encryption key of a second gaming organization. Moreover, Arnold discloses a transfer of data between a card and a card reader. Accordingly, Arnold does not teach a second gaming organization and encryption of gaming data with an encryption key of the second gaming organization having a second computer connected via a network to a first computer of a first gaming organization. There is no description or suggestion in the combination of Martinek and Arnold of encryption of gaming data with an encryption key of a second gaming organization having a second computer connected via a network to a first computer of a first gaming organization.

For example, neither Martinek nor Arnold, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest:

> the first encrypted gaming data having been generated by encrypting gaming data with an encryption key of the first gaming organization, and the second encrypted gaming data having been generated by encrypting the gaming data with an encryption key of the second gaming organization having the second gaming organization computer connected via the network with the first gaming organization computer of the first gaming organization;

the controller being programmed to decrypt the second encrypted gaming data with an encryption key of the second gaming organization to form second decrypted gaming data;

the controller being programmed to determine whether first decrypted gaming data decrypted by using the encryption key of first gaming organization is identical to the second decrypted gaming data decrypted by using the encryption key of the second gaming organization

as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner admits that Martinek 'lacks' "first encrypting gaming data with a first key from a first gaming organization and a second key from a second organization and decrypting the gaming data with the first and second keys from the first and second gaming organizations" (pages 4-5).

Moreover, Arnold describes an access control system and method. The system and method are described with respect to Figures 3 and 4 reproduced below.

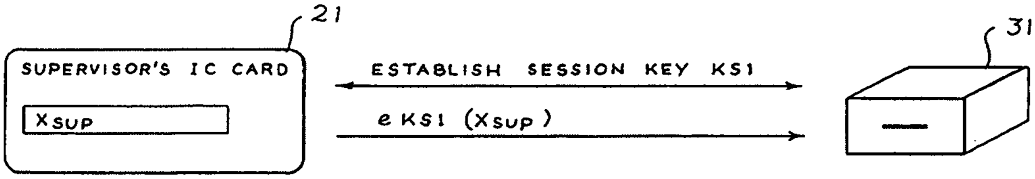

Fig. 3.

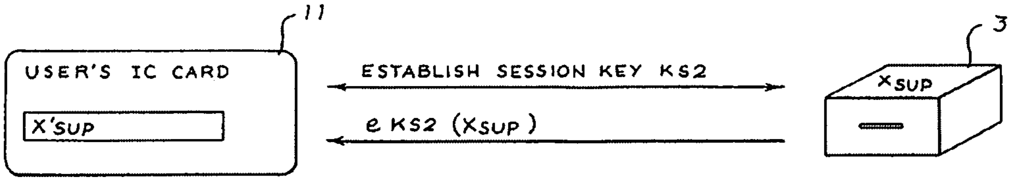

Fig. 4.

"Figure 3 shows the supervisor's card 21 and the card reader 31 and depicts the information flow necessary to establish a secure communication session and to transfer the value Xsup to the card reader 31" (col. 5, lines 44-47). "After the session key has been established, the IC card 21 encrypts the value Xsup under the session key KS1 which is depicted in the legend eKS1(Xsup) and is then sent to the reader 31 where it is decrypted and stored in a secure area for later use by the users card as the trial authorization value" (col. 5, lines 53-58).

"Figure 4 shows the user's card 11 and the card reader 31 and depicts the information flow necessary to establish a secure communication session and to transfer the value Xsup from the card reader 31. The session key is established in the same way as was done with the supervisors card but of course results in a new key value KS2. After the session key KS2 has been established, the card reader 31 encrypts the value Xsup under the session key KS2 which encryption is depicted in the legend eKS2(Xsup) and this encrypted value of Xsup is then sent to the user's card 11. At the user's card 11 it is decrypted and used as a trial authorization value for comparison" with a test authorization value X'sup stored in the user's card 11 (col. 6, lines 4-18).

Accordingly, Arnold discloses that the value Xsup is sent, in an encrypted form eKS1(Xsup) from the supervisor's card to the card reader and the value is sent, in an encrypted form eKS2(Xsup) from the card reader to the user's card. There is no disclosure, in Arnold, of a network between first and second gaming organization computers as called for by claim 49. Hence, there is no description in the combination of Martinek and Arnold of an encryption of gaming data with an encryption key of a second gaming organization having a second computer connected via a network with a first gaming organization computer of a first gaming organization.

The Examiner suggests that the user and supervisor of Arnold correspond to gaming organizations. For example, the Office Action states on page 7 that "[b]oth references are analogous in that the supervisor of Arnold corresponds to the Gaming Commission of Martinek and the user of Arnold corresponds to the game developer of Martinek" Applicants respectfully disagree. A user or a supervisor is a person, not an organization. An organization is an entity, not a person.

Thus, for at least these reasons, claim 49 would not have been obvious over the combination of Martinek and Arnold.

For at least the same reasons, claim 54 would not have been obvious over the combination of Martinek and Arnold.

The various dependent claims are respectfully submitted to be unobvious over the art of record for at least the same reasons as set forth above with respect to their associated independent claims. Accordingly, claims 50-53 and 55-58 would not have been obvious over the combination of Martinek and Arnold.

Hence, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 103 rejection of claims 49-58 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited and Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Reginald J. Suyat/
Reginald J. Suyat
Registration No. 28,172
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP
P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
(510) 663-1100

Respectfully submitted,

Nishit. V. Patel
Nishitkumar V. Patel
Registration No. 65,546
Weaver Austin Villeneuve & Sampson LLP
P.O. Box 70250
Oakland, CA 94612-0250
(510) 663-1100